

Security Information
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Karelo-Finnish Republic)
SUBJECT Petrozavodsk Hospitals/Utilities/
Public Health.

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED

DATE OF

DATE DISTR. 28 JUL 53

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1
REPORT NO.

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1. [REDACTED] Petrozavodsk (Finnish--Aanislinna), 25X1
capitol of Karelo-Finnish Republic in the USSR. The bombings of the Finnish Air Force and artillery had destroyed about 30% of the city. Many of the government buildings had been gutted and burned. It was estimated that about 20-thousand people were living in the city, which normally had a population of 80-thousand. This includes hundreds of refugees from the surrounding areas. All able-bodied men and women had been taken into the interior for forced labor, or were taken into the Soviet army, leaving only old people, physically-handicapped, and children under the age of 14 years.

2. [REDACTED] a serious epidemic of typhus 25X1
was raging in Petrozavodsk and vicinity. [REDACTED] set up Finnish steam baths and delousing equipment, and by June 1943 [REDACTED] succeeded in stamping out the epidemic, but not until over four-hundred natives had died. Assisting in this program were two elderly Soviet doctors, who were left behind, and many of the women in the area, who had had some nursing experience. Typhus is a very uncommon disease for this area and after a thorough search as to the cause, it was determined that the epidemic was caused by body lice brought in by captured Soviet soldiers who had seen service in other parts of the USSR.

3. All hospitals in Petrozavodsk had been taken over by the Finnish military government and all of them were staffed with Finnish medical officers and a skeleton staff of Finnish nurses who were assisted by native women who cooperated wholeheartedly with the Finnish medical personnel.

4. All hospitals in Petrozavodsk were owned and operated by the provincial government. The City Hospital, one of the oldest and largest, had 75 beds. It was

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of wooden construction, one and two stories high, and was located on the banks of Lake Onega, north of the central part of the city. The City Hospital had been used by the Soviets principally for medical cases. Its equipment was old and was left intact by the evacuating Russian soldiers.

5. The Children's Hospital, located north of the City Hospital on the shores of Lake Onega, had about 50 beds. It was constructed of ruff-cut lumber and logs; beds and other equipment in this hospital were left intact by the evacuating Soviet soldiers.

6. Located on the north-end of the city and on the banks of Lake Onega was the Tuberculosis Hospital; it was of stone construction, two stories high and had 70 beds. This hospital upon my arrival was filled to capacity with native patients.

7. The pride of the entire province was the Surgical Hospital, located two or three blocks west of the shores of Lake Onega and close to the central part of the business area of the city. This hospital, a stone construction, three stories high, had two-hundred beds and was built in the late 1930's. All of the equipment from this hospital, except the beds, was removed by the evacuating Soviet armies. [] re-furnished this hospital with the latest medical equipment available from Finland. 25X1

8. In addition to the above hospitals, there was a 50-bed Mental Hospital located north of the city on Lake Onega. A Dermatology Hospital was located north of the city on Lake Onega, which was formerly operated by the military. Located in the central part of the city, an old school building was converted into a hospital for use by the natives. This hospital was staffed by local Soviet personnel under the supervision of Finnish medical officers.

9. All of the above-named hospitals in the city of Petrozavodsk had their own water systems. The water came from individual springs and was piped into the hospitals. Examination of this water at various times showed it to be of good quality, but we insisted that it as well as all of the well water for human consumption be chlorine treated.

10. The sewage from these hospitals was piped to the lake, and garbage was collected and hauled to a dump away from the city where it was burned.

11. All government buildings and some privately-owned buildings in the central part of the city had their own sewage system, which was piped to Lake Onega. They also had their own water system, which came from springs in the hills in the southwestern part of the city. Garbage was either locally destroyed or hauled to the dump for burning, except in the better residential areas of the city where the people had their own individual water and sewage-disposal systems. Throughout the city, there were public as well as private privies and a central location where water could be gotten.

12. In the spring of 1944, [] an outbreak of paratyphoid. This was in the northern part of the city where the railroad yards were located. The cause of this outbreak was traced to the water which the railroad had been pumping in from the lake and storing in the tanks for use by the railroads. [] all water used by the public in this area be boiled before being used. 25X1 25X1

13. The Soviet Army upon evacuating the area left a good supply of drugs which upon examination showed to have been manufactured recently and of excellent quality. These drugs included common drugs, tinctures, sulpha preparations, and a synthetic malaria drug called, acridine, which compared favorably with the malaria drugs that we were using. In the Soviet soldiers' kits that were left behind, [] opium preparations and sterilized bandage materials. 25X1

14. Fresh milk was obtained daily from three large collective farms, which were located west of the city.

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15. Located about five miles west of the city limits was a wood-burning, steam-generating electric plant, which furnished electricity for power and lighting all of the hospitals and government buildings.

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